

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A resource tracking system, comprising:

a plurality of resources, each resource having a plurality of associated orthogonal resource material categories; and

5 a resource controller, coupled to said plurality of resources, for grouping a subset of said plurality of resources having matching values for all of said associated orthogonal resource material categories.
2. The resource tracking system of claim 1 wherein a number of said plurality of associated orthogonal resource material categories is equal to three.
- 10 3. The resource tracking system of claim 1 wherein said plurality of resources include electronic documents distributed over one or more coupled computing systems.
4. The resource tracking system of claim 1 wherein said orthogonal resource material categories include a subject identity category, an object identity
15 category, and a context category.
5. The resource tracking system of claim 1 further comprising a display for presenting said subset of said plurality of resources.
6. The resource tracking system of claim 1 further comprising a display for presenting a particular one of plurality of resources from said subset of
20 resources and presenting a reference to one or more other resources from said subset of resources.
7. The resource tracking system of claim 6 further comprising one or more resource gateways, each resource gateway defining a second subset of said plurality of resources having matching values for less than all of said orthogonal resource
25 categories.

8. The resource tracking system of claim 1 wherein each resource of said plurality of resources additionally includes at least one associated non-orthogonal resource material category.

9. The resource tracking system of claim 8 wherein said at least one associated non-orthogonal resource material category is a time-related category.

10. The resource tracking system of claim 8 wherein said at least one associated non-orthogonal resource material category is a resource source category.

11. A resource binding method, the method comprising:

a) associating a plurality of orthogonal resource material categories to each of a plurality of resources to bind said plurality of resources; and

b) grouping a subset of said plurality of resources having matching values for all of said associated orthogonal resource material categories to aggregate related ones of said plurality of resources together.

12. The resource binding method of claim 11 wherein a number of said plurality of associated orthogonal resource material categories is equal to three.

13. The resource binding method of claim 11 wherein said plurality of resources include electronic documents distributed over one or more coupled computing systems.

14. The resource binding method of claim 11 wherein said orthogonal resource material categories include a subject identity category, an object identity category, and a context category.

15. The resource binding method of claim 11 further comprising a display for presenting said subset of said plurality of resources.

16. The resource binding method of claim 11 further comprising a display for presenting a particular one of plurality of resources from said subset of

resources and presenting a reference to one or more other resources from said subset of resources.

17. The resource binding method of claim 16 further comprising one or more resource gateways, each resource gateway defining a second subset of said plurality
5 of resources having matching values for less than all of said orthogonal resource categories.

18. The resource binding method of claim 11 wherein each resource of said plurality of resources additionally includes at least one associated non-orthogonal resource material category.

19. The resource binding method of claim 18 wherein said at least one
10 associated non-orthogonal resource material category is a time-related category.

20. The resource binding method of claim 18 wherein said at least one associated non-orthogonal resource material category is a resource source category.

21. A computer program product comprising a computer readable
15 medium carrying program instructions for binding a plurality of resources when executed using a computing system, the executed program instructions executing a method, the method comprising:

- a) associating a plurality of orthogonal resource material categories to each of a plurality of resources to bind said plurality of resources; and
- 20 b) grouping a subset of said plurality of resources having matching values for all of said associated orthogonal resource material categories to aggregate related ones of said plurality of resources together.

22. The computer program product of claim 21 wherein a number of said plurality of associated orthogonal resource material categories is equal to three.

23. The computer program product of claim 21 wherein said plurality
25 of resources include electronic documents distributed over one or more coupled computing systems.

24. The computer program product of claim 21 wherein said orthogonal resource material categories include a subject identity category, an object identity category, and a context category.

25. The computer program product of claim 21 further comprising a display for presenting said subset of said plurality of resources.

26. The computer program product of claim 21 further comprising a display for presenting a particular one of plurality of resources from said subset of resources and presenting a reference to one or more other resources from said subset of resources.

27. The computer program product of claim 26 further comprising one or more resource gateways, each resource gateway defining a second subset of said plurality of resources having matching values for less than all of said orthogonal resource categories.

28. The computer program product of claim 21 wherein each resource of said plurality of resources additionally includes at least one associated non-orthogonal resource material category.

29. The computer program product of claim 28 wherein said at least one associated non-orthogonal resource material category is a time-related category.

30. The computer program product of claim 28 wherein said at least one associated non-orthogonal resource material category is a resource source category.

31. A resource presentation apparatus, comprising:

a display;

an I/O system for receiving navigation instructions from a user;

a database for storing a plurality of resources, each resource having a plurality of associated orthogonal resource material categories; and

a resource controller, coupled to said plurality of resources and responsive to said navigation instructions, for grouping a subset of said plurality of resources having matching values for all of said associated orthogonal resource material categories; wherein said plurality of resources having matching values presented on said display.

5 32. A method implemented on a computer system having a display, the method comprising:

a) responding to user navigation commands to select a resource from a plurality of resources, each resource having a plurality of orthogonal resource material categories;

10 b) associating a subset of said plurality of resources with said selected resource, said subset of resources having values for all of said orthogonal resource material categories matching said orthogonal resource material categories of said selected resource; and

c) displaying said selected resource and said subset of resources.

15 33. The method of claim 34 further comprising creating a gateway to a second subset of resources, said second subset of resources having values for less than all of said orthogonal resource material categories matching said orthogonal resource material categories of said selected resource.

34. A resource binding apparatus, comprising:

20 means for associating a plurality of orthogonal resource material categories to each of a plurality of resources to bind said plurality of resources; and

means for grouping a subset of said plurality of resources having matching values for all of said associated orthogonal resource material categories to aggregate related ones of said plurality of resources together.